Badger Bulletin

Friday October 16th, 2026

Dear Big Rock Families,

We believe families are important partners in student learning. This year, one of our goals is to open the window a little wider into what teaching and learning looks like at our school. We'll be sharing more about the programs, assessments, and instructional practices our teachers use, and how these help us make thoughtful decisions to support student growth.

Watch for our **Did You Know?** feature in the Badger Bulletin to learn a little more about the "why" behind what we do.

You may have noticed that we've been looking for **Homeroom Representatives to join the Badgers Guild of Big Rock School.** The reality is that many of the activities our students and families enjoy are currently made possible by a core group of about four parents who regularly step forward to help. We are incredibly grateful for them, but we cannot rely on the same few people to make everything happen. Our hope is to build a larger network of families who can each contribute a little, making volunteering more manageable and helping these valued school experiences continue. **The first meeting of the Badgers Guild will follow our School Council meeting on Wednesday, October 21st at 7:30 pm.**

Have a happy weekend,
Tammi Andrew
Interim-Principal
Big Rock School

Did You Know…

… Big Rock School, students in our primary classes receive targeted instruction in reading each morning?

At the beginning of the year, teachers assessed students to determine their current literacy skills and learning needs. Students were then placed in flexible groups for targeted instruction using UFLI, a structured literacy program that supports the development of foundational reading skills. These groupings allow teachers to focus instruction on the skills students are ready to learn next.

Government Assessments:

This fall, students in Grades 1–5 completed mandatory provincial assessments. Once the reports are available, results will be shared with families. Our teachers will use this information to better understand student strengths and areas for growth and to plan targeted instruction and intervention based on student needs.

Important Dates:

Monday, Oct 19

-Non-Instructional Day for Students, Staff will be at Highwood High School participating in the following learning session: “Pedagogy: The Bridge Between Curriculum and Deep Learning That Transfers.

Wednesday, Oct 21:

- School Council Meeting at 6:00 pm - Location: School Library
- Badgers Guild of Big Rock School Meeting at 7:30 pm - Location: School Library
- Grade 6 Vaccinations in the afternoon

Friday, October 30:

- Halloween Carnival hosted by Grade 6 Students – afternoon
- Family Halloween Dance hosted by School Council – from 6-8 pm

Monday, November 2:

- Picture Retakes – 8:30 am

Thursday, Nov 5:

- Remembrance Day Assembly at 2 pm. Families welcome.

Friday, Nov 6:

- Grade 6 Catch Up Vaccinations (Round 1)

Monday, Nov 9 – Friday, Nov 13: Fall Break

Monday, Nov 16 – Friday, Nov 20: Artist In Residence: Decidedly Jazz Danceworks – Grades 3-6 students

A Message from Mrs. Forchuk:

Dear Big Rock Families,

I wanted to share a personal update following this week's divisional announcement. As many of you know, I had been looking forward to returning to Big Rock in the coming weeks. While I am still very much looking forward to reconnecting with our students, staff, and families, my return will look a little different than I had originally anticipated.

I have accepted the temporary role of Acting Director of Education Partner Relations with Foothills School Division. A leadership gap needed to be filled, and I am grateful to be able to support our division in this capacity until the Director returns to their regular duties. As a result, my full-time return to Big Rock will be postponed.

Big Rock continues to hold a very special place in my heart. I remain deeply connected to our school community and plan to spend time at the school on certain days so I can continue connecting with students and staff and remain part of the life of the school.

I also want to express my sincere appreciation for Tammi Andrew and Sarah Griffin, who will continue as Interim Principal and Interim Vice Principal. I have tremendous confidence in their leadership and in our entire Big Rock staff. Our students continue to be surrounded by people who care deeply about them, their learning, and their sense of belonging at school.

Thank you for the kindness and support you have shown me and my family over the past year. It has meant more than I can say. Although this next chapter is not quite the return I had envisioned, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue serving both Big Rock and our broader Foothills school community.

With appreciation,
Rebecca Forchuk